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For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

September 25, 2007

Forty-one Western
Reception,
Diagnostic and
Correctional Center
(WRDCC) offenders
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A graduation
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September 26, 2007,
at 1:30 p.m. in
WRDCC's visiting
room.

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WRDCC Education Director Chad
Elifrits

WRDCC GED Graduation Ceremony Set for September 26th

Forty-one Western Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (WRDCC) offenders have completed their General Education Degree (GED) requirements. A graduation ceremony will be held Wednesday, September 26, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. in WRDCC's visiting room, which is located in the administration building in St. Joseph. Missouri Western State University President James Scanlon will be the guest speaker, and the event will be open to the news media.

The offenders studied reading, language, social studies, mathematics and science. The GED program is supervised by WRDCC Education Director Chad Elifrits. The program is designed and administered by WRDCC and instructional staff from Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph.

"Our research shows that offenders who are admitted to prison without a high school diploma or a GED but who obtain a GED while incarcerated do better than those offenders who leave prison without a GED," said Elifrits.

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education reports the GED pass rate for the Missouri Department of Corrections is 84.95 percent. The GED pass rate for the state of Missouri is 77 percent. Completion of the GED provides an advantage to prison industries and to the community for providing a literate workforce.

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